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PATENT APPLICATION ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 72093

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Imai et al.

Appln. No.:

09/939,388

Filed:

August 24, 2001

Title:

RESIN RECYCLING

SYSTEM

Group

Art Unit:

1746

Examiner:

Not Yet Known

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and

Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

JAN 25 2002

Date

James P. Krueger Registration No. 35,234

Attorney for the Applicants

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 - 1.98 in connection with the above-identified application. Submitted herewith is Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the references cited thereon is enclosed.

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Patent No. DE 19800521

DE 10006740

EP 1023945

<u>Issue Date</u>

Jul. 22, 1999

Aug. 16, 2001

Aug. 02, 2000

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## OTHER DOCUMENTS

Copy of Search Report from EP 01120188, dated November 30, 2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in this application to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Βv

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Dated: January 25, 2002

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